

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and remarks contained herein in response to the final Office Action mailed January 12, 2007.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment and remarks contained herein place the instant application in condition for allowance.

Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1 and 48 – 54 are pending. In particular, Applicants add claims 48 – 54 and cancel claims 27 – 47 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicants cancel claims 27 – 47 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate the canceled subject matter to the public. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

I. Examiner Interview

Applicants first wish to express their sincere appreciation for the time that Examiner Anwah spent with Applicants' Attorney, Anthony Bonner, during a telephone discussion on March 14, 2007 regarding the outstanding Office Action. During that conversation, Examiner Anwah seemed to indicate that introducing new claims dependent from allowed claim 1 would not prompt a new matter issue, requiring an RCE. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that Examiner Anwah carefully consider this response and the amendments.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action indicates that claim 1 is allowed. Applicants sincerely appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter and cancel claims 27 – 47, as indicated above.

III. Claim Objections

The Office Action indicates that claims 27, 34, and 41 are objected to because the term “digital Message” lacks proper antecedent basis. Applicants cancel claims 27 – 47 and consider this issue moot.

IV. Claims 27 – 30, 32 – 37, 39 – 44, 46, and 47 are Allowable Over *Tobias*

The Office Action indicates that claims 27 – 30, 32 – 37, 39 – 44, 46, and 47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,732,151 (“*Tobias*”). Applicants cancel these claims and consider this issue moot.

V. Claims 31, 38, and 45 are Allowable Over *Tobias* in view of *Cruickshank*

The Office Action indicates that claims 31, 38, and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Tobias* in view of U.S. Publication Number 2002/0077082 (“*Cruickshank*”). Applicants cancel these claims and consider this issue moot.

VI. New Claims 48 – 54 are Allowable Over *Tobias* in view of *Cruickshank*

As indicated above, Applicants add new claims 48 – 54. Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 48 – 54 are allowable for at least the reason that new claims 48 – 54 depend from allowable independent claim 1. As claim 1 as previously been indicated as allowable, Applicants respectfully request an expedited allowance of the present application.

More specifically, support for claims 48 – 49 may be found, as a nonlimiting example, at paragraph [0064]. Similarly, support for claim 50 may be found, as a nonlimiting example, at paragraph [0068]. Support for claims 51 – 54 may be found, as a nonlimiting example, at paragraph [0069].

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested.

Any other statements in the Office Action that are not explicitly addressed herein are not intended to be admitted. In addition, any and all findings of inherency are traversed as not having been shown to be necessarily present. Furthermore, any and all findings of well-known art and Official Notice, or statements interpreted similarly, should not be considered well-known for the particular and specific reasons that the claimed combinations are too complex to support such conclusions and because the Office Action does not include specific findings predicated on sound technical and scientific reasoning to support such conclusions.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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